

Attorney Docket No. 970668D/LH

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant

: Masaki HIGURASHI et al.

Serial No.

: 08/964,180

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: 2612

Examiner

: Luong Trung Nguyen

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<u>AMENDMENT</u>

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

SIR:

This is responsive to the Office Action mailed April 21, 2004, the term for response to which is extended by three months by Petition filed concurrently herewith to October 21, 2004.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 19 of this paper.

BA 5/9/01 26/2/B

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS

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I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 14597 Alexandria, VA 22313-

Manilyn Stutts
In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper, to

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